

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8856

INFO USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS BELGRADE 7813

FOR EUR/EE, MR. SCHMIDT

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: OTRA OVIP YO (RICHARDSON, SECRETARY ELLIOT L.)

SUBJ: RICHARDSON'S VISIT

1. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF SECRETARY RICHARDSON'S OPENING STATEMENT AS DELIVERED AT BELGRADE PRESS CONFERENCE AT 1130 ON NOV 27:

2. MRS. RICHARDSON AND I, AS YOU KNOW, HAVE COME TO YUGOSLAVIA AT THE INVITATION OF THE YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT. WHILE WE HAVE BEEN HERE ONCE BEFORE ON THE ADRIATIC COAST ON A FAMILY VACATION, THIS IS THE FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT AND IT HAS BEEN ENJOYABLE AND SATISFACTORY, AND I BELIEVE USEFUL IN EVERY WAY. WE WERE PARTICULARLY GRATIFIED AT HAVING THE OPPORTUNITY DURING THIS VISIT TO EXTEND BEST WISHES TO PRESIDENT TITO, AND TO STRESS AMERICAN INTEREST IN MAINTAINING HEALTHY, MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL RELATIONS WITH YUGOSLAVIA. THE HOSPITALITY EXTENDED TO US THROUGHOUT THE VISIT HAS BEEN WARM AND GRACIOUS, AND WE ARE PARTICULARLY GRATEFUL TO OUR HOST SECRETARY LUDVIGER AND HIS COLLEAGUES.

3. THE PURPOSE OF THE VISIT WAS TO PROMOTE DEVELOPMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL RELATIONS AND TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF BILATERAL AND MULTI-LATERAL INTERESTS TO BOTH COUNTRIES. I CAME ALSO TO REAFFIRM AMERICA'S SUPPORT FOR YUGOSLAVIA'S UNCLASSIFIED

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POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE AND TERRITORIAL UNITY

AND INTEGRITY.

4. IN ADDITION TO TALKS WITH THE FOREIGN TRADE SECRETARY, I MET WITH THE PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL DZEMAL BIJEDIC, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND FEDERAL SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS MILO MINIC. TALKS TOOK PLACE IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF FRIENDSHIP AND OPENNESS AND COVERED A BROAD RANGE OF ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL TOPICS, AS WELL AS ISSUES OF GENERAL INTEREST. BOTH SIDES EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH THE EXPANSION OF ECONOMIC TIES IN RECENT YEARS AND NOTED POSSIBILITIES OF FURTHER PROGRESS ESPECIALLY IN AREAS OF ECONOMIC, FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION. WE GAVE SPECIAL ATTENTION IN OUR DISCUSSIONS TO CURRENT INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS. WE AGREED THAT IN AN INTERDEPENDENT WORLD PEACE AND STABILITY ARE STRENGTHENED WHEN NATIONS COOPERATE TO EXPAND TRADE AND IMPROVED COMMERCIAL RELATIONS. BOTH SIDES EMPHASIZED THAT ECONOMIC COOPERATION MUST BE BASED ON RESPECT FOR THE PRINCIPLES OF INDEPENDENCE, SOVEREIGNTY, EQUALITY AND NON-INTERFERENCE AMONG ALL STATES.

5. WE TOOK THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RE-ENDORSE THE PRINCIPLE OF MUTUAL RESPECT FOR EACH OTHER'S INTERESTS WHICH HAVE TRADITIONALLY GUIDED THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR BI-LATERAL RELATIONS. I RESTATED AMERICA'S SUPPORT OF THE INDEPENDENCE, UNITY AND NON-ALIGNMENT OF YUGOSLAVIA. WE CONCURRED THAT THESE PRINCIPLES, WHICH HAVE BEEN CONSISTENTLY RECONFIRMED AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL, CONSTITUTE THE LASTING BASIS FOR STABLE RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES, AND AN IMPORTANT FACTOR FOR PEACE AND STABILITY IN EUROPE.

5. THAT CONCLUDES MY OPENING STATEMENT.
SILBERMAN

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